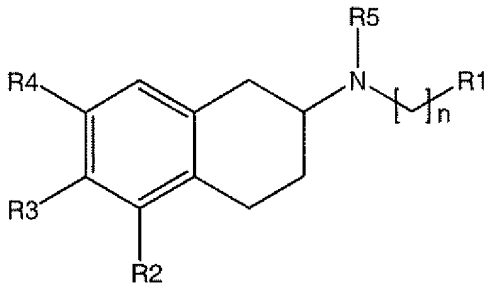
IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently amended) A method for preventive treatment of Parkinson's disease ~~in a subject~~, comprising

(a) identifying a subject (i) without symptoms of Parkinson's disease but with an increased risk of developing Parkinson's disease, or (ii) with early symptoms of Parkinson's disease but not exhibiting, other than to a rudimentary or partial degree, at least three of four cardinal symptoms of Parkinson's disease, said symptoms being rigor, resting tremor, bradykinesia and postural instability; and

(b) administering to the subject a compound of the general formula

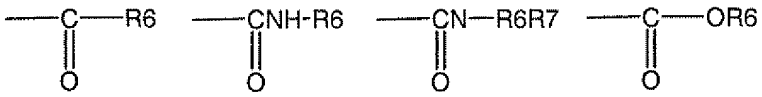


wherein:

n [[=]] **is** 1 to 5;

R2 is OA;

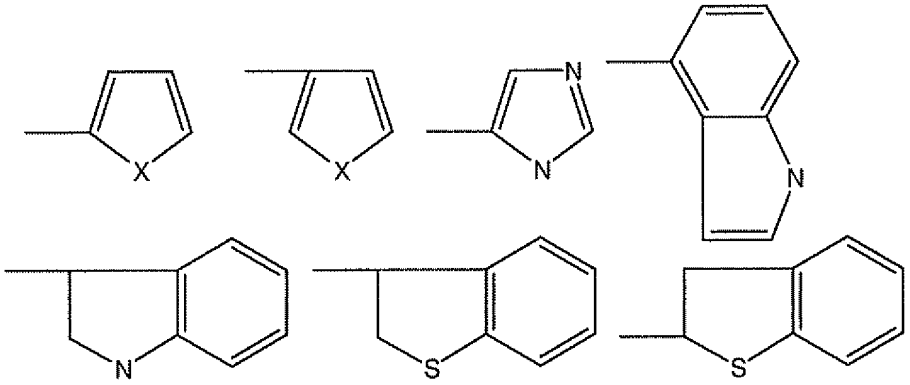
R3 and R4 are each independently selected from H and OA; with A being selected from H, alkyl, alkoxymethyl or a group



wherein R6 and R7 are independently alkyl or aryl;

R5 is [[a]] C_{1-3} alkyl;

R1 is a group selected from hydrogen, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, optionally substituted phenyl,



wherein X is ~~selected from~~ S, O or NH;

wherein the compound is present as a racemate or as a pure (R)- or (S)-enantiomer; or a physiologically acceptable salt of said compound.

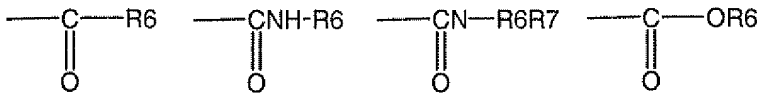
2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the subject is an individual with early symptoms of Parkinson's disease~~, in whom~~ **but not exhibiting, other than to a rudimentary or partial degree,** at least three of the four cardinal symptoms of Parkinson's disease**, said symptoms being** [[(]]rigor, resting ~~tremors~~ **tremor**, bradykinesia[[,]] **and** postural instability~~) are not yet or are only partially present~~, said individual displaying more than one clinical symptom selected from the group consisting of olfactory disorders, depression, sleep disorders of the "REM behavior disorder" type, constipation and short-term movement anomalies.

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim **[[2]] 1**, wherein the subject displays a mutation in a PARK gene and/or modifications to the alpha synuclein or neuromelanin pattern.

5. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein, in the formula for said compound, R3 and R4 each represent hydrogen.

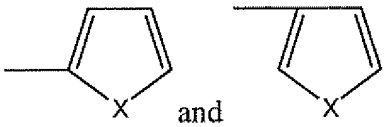
6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein, in the formula for said compound, A is a hydrogen atom or a group selected from



wherein R6 is C_{1-12} alkyl, phenyl or ~~**methoxyphenol**~~ **methoxyphenyl**.

7. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein, in the formula for said compound, n is 1 to 3.

8. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein, in the formula for said compound, R1 is selected from the group



wherein X is S, O or NH.

9. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein, in the formula for said compound, X is a sulphur atom.

10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein, in the formula for said compound, R5 is **[[a]]** C3 alkyl.

11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein, in the formula for said compound, R1 is **[[a]]** 2-thienyl, R3 and R4 are both H, R5 is **[[a]]** C3 alkyl and n **[[=]]** **is** 2.

12. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the compound is 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-6-[propyl-[2-(2-thienyl)ethyl]-amino]-1-naphthol.

13. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein the compound is the pure S-enantiomer (rotigotine).

14. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the subject displays a dopaminergic cell loss in the substantia nigra of less than 60% before commencement of the administration.

15. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the subject has a UPDRS score of less than 10 before commencement of the administration.

16. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the subject has a Hoehn-Yahr score of 0 or 1.

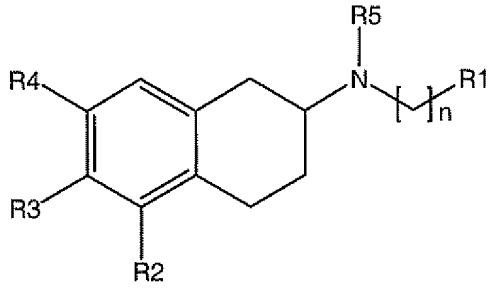
17. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the compound is administered parenterally, transdermally or mucosally.

18. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the compound is administered in a dose of 0.05 to 50 mg per day.

19. (Withdrawn and currently amended) A kit for diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease, comprising

(a) a diagnostic agent that enables a diagnosis of Parkinson's disease and/or a predisposition to develop Parkinson's disease at an early or asymptomatic stage; and

(b) a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of the general formula

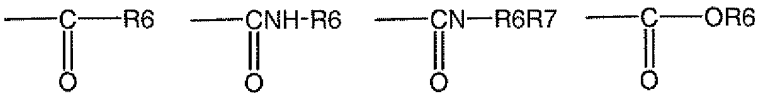


wherein:

n [[=]] **is** 1 to 5;

R2 is OA;

R3 and R4 are each independently selected from H and OA; with A being selected from H, alkyl, alkoxymethyl or a group



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R5 is **[[a]]** C_{1-3} alkyl;

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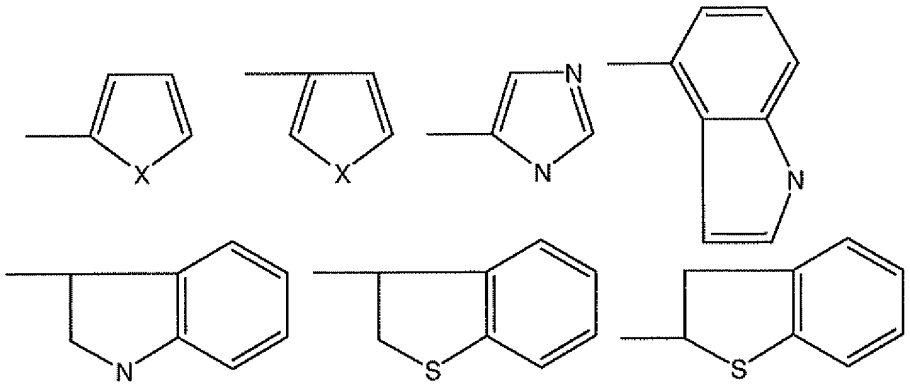

wherein X is ~~selected from~~ S, O or NH;

wherein the compound is present as a racemate or as a pure (R)- or (S)-enantiomer; or a physiologically acceptable salt of said compound.

20. (Withdrawn) The kit of Claim 19, wherein the diagnostic agent (a) comprises

(i) an agent or a diagnosis kit for detecting neuromelanin;

(ii) an agent or a diagnosis kit for detecting semaphorin 3;

(iii) an agent or a diagnosis kit for detecting alpha-synuclein and/or its aggregates; or

(iv) an agent or a diagnosis kit for genetically detecting a mutation associated with the appearance of Parkinson's disease and/or an allele associated with the more frequent appearance of Parkinson's disease.